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THE STATE.

—We learn from the Biddeford Journal that Charles Dick-

—We have picked this month a mayflower, a strawberry blossom, and a full-blown dandelion. —December war. The lilac buds are very full in the woods. —Oxford Democrat.

—The Whig says a petition is to go to the Legislature for the incorporation of a company to connect Pshaw Lake with Keweenaw Stream by a canal—to strike the stream at or near Six Mile Falls in Bangor. The work will cost many millions.

We learn from the Bangor Whig that Mr. Jonathan Quint, a venerable citizen of Brownfield, died recently at 90 years of age. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and served in Capt. Wm. Hull's company of the 9th regiment.

The Rockland Gazette says that the railroad between Rockland and the Kennebec is *to be built*, and that it is the duty of the businessmen of that city to take hold of the matter and "put it through." Rockland favors the Bath rather than the Richmond route.

The winter term of the Maine Normal School commenced on Wednesday of this week and will continue ten weeks. A vacation of

—Two young Irish girls, aged respectively 15 and 16, are missing from Lawiston.

—The Biddiford Union says Charles O. Hodson of that city, and formerly tie Lieut. and Adj. 48th U. S. C. H. Inf., has been appointed to the position of major in the 1st Regt. of Mass. Cavalry, and is to leave for 13th of March next.

—The Biddiford Union says that a man and meritorious service to the United States.

—Last Monday a officer Dargin of Saco was attempting to arrest one Leonard Welch in the city of Portland, who was standing by a street car. Dargin attempted a rescue, and was wounded with a stone inflicting a severe wound which will require some time to heal. Tuesday Green and Welch were brought to Saco, and will appear on or about at the next term of Supreme Court Saco, to answer for the assault and intoxication.

—The Biddiford Journal says the Hon. Nathan Dane will not be a candidate for the Sen.

retaryship, but that the Republicans of York county with entire unanimity will present the name for the Treasuryship in the event of a change in that office, as a desirable one upon which all can unite with an experienced confidence."

—The Biddeford Journal speaking of what the World calls Mr. Greeley's "encyclical letter," issued just before his departure for the West and explaining his peculiar views respecting universal amnesty and universal suffrage.

Frage, says "Horace has been drawn into accepting that Copperhead compromise, something as he was in the Niagara conference." He is remarkably unfit to be a leader; he fights well in the ranks and there is his forte. His chief fault is that he is not a statesman. In the U. S. Senate, from New York, he would be a positive loss in Republican strength."

RELIGIOUS.

—The Church Monthly, for December, published by E. P. Dutton & Co., contains the continuation of Bishop Burgess's journal, also articles by Rev. Robert Lowell, D. D., Rev. Henry Hudson, and others.

—The Monthly Journal of the American Unitarian Association contains a great amount of denominational intelligence, including the contributions to the churches during the past year.

—The new Church Almanac gives the following statistics of the Episcopal Church in this country, including the Southern States:—Whole number of parishes, 235; whole number of clergy, 550; total membership, 161,224; number of the vestry, 3,851,607.

—In the Southern States, especially in session this week at Memphis, earnestly, as have been adopted, and delegates appointed to bear to the Associated Reform Church and the Cumberland Presbyteries, in order to effect the union of those bodies with the Assembly, the attempt to remove the Theological Seminary at Nashville (S. C.) to Memphis has failed. The report of the committee on the Freedmen has elicited much attention, and the indications were that the debate would be violent and protracted.

—The anniversary of the American Missionary Society and the Evangelical Knowledge

—**Rev. S. R. Brown**, missionary in Japan has recently sent to this country six Japanese youth to be educated, and it is probable they will be first placed at Monson Academy, under the care of Rev. Charles Hammond. Mr. Brown is a native of Monson.

—**Rev. A. Strout** has become pastor of the Free Baptist church in Brunswick.

—**Rev. George Bullen**, of South Reading, Mass., formerly of this city, has resigned the pastorate of the Baptist church in consequence of enfeebled health.

—**Rev. C. F. Penney** of Augusta baptised twenty-five and admitted twenty-eight persons into the Free Baptist Church of New Gloucester, Sunday last.

—**Rev. Dr. Richards**, late pastor of the Oliver street Church, in Naahua, has received a call from the Congregational Church in France.

The Dover Morning Star calls attention to the fact that Rev. C. O. Libby of Kennebunk, Me., having been appointed Treasurer of the F. B. Foreign Missionary Society, all monies designated for that society should be sent to him, and not to Rev. Burr, Deane, as formerly.

—A dedication of the Church of the Holy Paternity—the new edifice erected by Rev. Dr. Chapin's congregation on Fifth avenue, corner of Broadway, was held at the church on Monday afternoon before a large assemblage. A number of prominent clergymen, including Rev. Dr. Chapin, Rev. Dr. Burr, Rev. Dr. Sawyer, Demarest and Lee, were present. Dr. Chapin preached the dedicatory sermon, a

the duties and the future of Universalism were clearly set forth, the pastor taking a broad and comprehensive view of the subject, and of the position of the church in the present state of ecclesiasticism.—*N. Y. Evening Post.*

—Rev. Mr. Steers of the Bates Street Universalist Church, received seven members to the church, and is enjoying a steady and increasing work of grace.—*London Journal.*

—New York city. New York city is seeking a closer union. Conferences and union meetings are being held, and attempts are made to merge the naue and the peculiarities of each of the sects into the organization of the Broad Church, the Universalists being less dogmatic, the Unitarians less negative, both more liberal in anti-slavery, temperance and other reforms, so that they have a common bond of union.

—Rev. Charles Andrews of Fayette writes to the Oxford Democrat that on Sunday last he baptized a young person, making 23 baptisms.

—Preliminary steps are being taken in Augusta for the erection of a Universalist church. —*The Maine Farmer* learns that Rev. Alexander McKenzie, pastor of the South Parish Church in Augusta, has accepted the call of the Congregational Church in Cambridge, Mass., to become their pastor. He will close his labors in Augusta in January next, and prevent his settlement at Cambridge will be about in Europe five months.

—Reports come to us of extensive revivals in the towns of Industry and Union in this State.

—The New Methodist church in Brunswick was dedicated on Wednesday.

DAILY PRESS.

Portland, Saturday Morning, December 8, 1896.

Release of the Murderers of Maine Soldiers.

At the caucus of Republican members of Congress held in Washington Wednesday evening, it was agreed to raise a special committee to investigate the release of the murderers of Maine soldiers in South Carolina. These soldiers were Corporal M. C. Corbett and Privates Emory Smith and Mason Brown, all of the First Maine Veteran Volunteers.

The officers of the Treasury Department had taken possession of fifteen barrels of cotton lying at the Ferry and put them in charge of W. F. Brown, the owner of the ferry, who was a few rods distant. The cotton was claimed by the elder Keys, who had engaged Stowers to carry it by boat to Savannah. On the Friday before the murder Stowers informed Brown that the cotton was about to be taken away, and advised him to turn it over to the military authorities and relieve himself of all responsibility for it.

At about 11 o'clock Sunday night five men passed the ferry gate, in the direction of the river. They were seen by Brown and his assistant, named Howell, to go to the ferry, where they were acting under orders which they must obey, the answer was heard, "God damn you, we have come to throw you into the river," followed by the sharp report of fire-arms, and presently the same party of five men came back past the ferry house, three of them riding the soldiers horses.

The next morning the bodies of our Maine boys, so needlessly, so atrociously assassinated, were found in the river, a row or two from the shore, by a detail of soldiers. Each had been shot through the head, two wounds that must have caused immediate death; the third evidently having been inflicted after receiving his wound. The hair of each was searched, showing that the pistols had been discharged close to their heads.

The defense set up for the four assassins who were apprehended, was an alibi which proved an utter failure. Every circumstance of their actions during the day, their meeting and consulting together, their absence from home at the time of the murder, all tallied perfectly with the direct and positive testimony of Brown and Howell, who were the only residents of the district who perfectly familiar with the voices and faces of their neighbors.

On the morning after the murder Stowers was proved to have told his negro servants that the soldiers had been killed; and that if questioned about him they must say that he had seen him at home at 11 o'clock the night before, and had seen some brandy from him. This was proved to be false, and further he made no attempt to show that he obtained his information. The four prisoners were all found guilty by the commission and sentenced to be hanged. This sentence was commuted by Gen. Sickles, in the cases of Brown and Robert Keys, in accordance with the recommendation of the commission, on account of their youth, to imprisonment for life. The two others were ordered to be executed on the 27th April, 1896.

At this point President Johnson intervened. At the solicitation of friends of the prisoners, he sent a telegraphic order on the 24th April, suspending the execution of the sentence. Afterwards the President commuted the sentence to imprisonment for life, and the four prisoners were sent to "Castle Pinckney" for confinement. Subsequently they were removed to Fort Delaware, from which they have recently been taken on a writ of habeas corpus issued by Judge Hall and are now at large. It is understood that the removal of the scoundrels was deliberately made for the purpose of bringing them within the jurisdiction of the Delaware judge, whose "Conservatism" was rightly regarded as a sufficient guaranty for their release.

The disgraceful nature of this transaction is not yet fully exposed. We have related the facts as they appear on the surface, shocking enough so, but not so black as the rumors which Congress is called upon to investigate. A correspondent of the Chicago Tribune, writing from Washington under the date of November 28, says:

There were two principal actors in the matter. One was Wm. H. Trescott, of South Carolina, whose presence here some months since was so much commented upon by the wealthy prisoners to work up their case with him, a man, the second of the country, in Washington, since Secretary of the Interior, and then, also, the dispenser of much of the Government's largesse, and in the late attempts to create a Johnson party, Mr. Browning was retained in the case, and organized an argument which he read to the President. Principally through the efforts of these two, the prisoners were brought from Castle Pinckney to Fort Delaware, preparatory to their release.

The amount of money which has passed in this case is known to be a large sum. It is estimated that the exact figures cannot be ascertained. It has been stated by a party who could hardly be credited with the credit of a broker, that \$250,000 in all has been paid to secure the release.

So far as Mr. Browning was concerned with the case, his services began before he was Secretary, although the case has but just been decided.

This Trescott is the man who as a prominent office-holder under Buchanan, played the spy in the Rebel interest till he was compelled to leave the office he disgraced—a fit advocate for fit clients. Mr. Browning conspired with him, it is alleged, to set at liberty these convicted murderers, and the President of the United States connived at their plot. The blood of our poor boys, so wantonly spilled, cries from the ground. Congress does well to investigate a case so unparliamentary.

SLAVERY IN BRAZIL. The new edition of "Brazil and the Brazilians," just published, has been so thoroughly revised and enlarged as to give a complete view of the condition of the empire at the present time. The most important part in the latest history of Brazil is the gradual decay of the slave system; attributable, in part, to the suppression of the slave trade in 1850, but in a greater degree to the opposition by will, to the purchase of freedom, and to the liberation of negroes taken from captured slave vessels and apprenticed for terms of fourteen years. The operation of these causes has produced a marked change in the condition of the black during the last twenty years, and the highest estimates do not now include more than two million slaves among the population of the empire; the total decrease since 1850 being at least one million. "Slavery," says Mr. Fletcher, "has mostly been confined to the central coastal provinces"; and in another passage he remarks that "slavery is doomed in Brazil."

Report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

PORTLAND.

His suggestions are—

1. To require returns for the annual list on the first Monday in March, instead of May, and to make the tax payable on the 30th day of April, instead of June.

2. To substitute for the 10 per cent. penalty of non-payment of taxes before a certain day, a more reasonable penalty of five per cent. for neglect or refusal, and interest at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum from the time when the tax becomes payable.

3. To improve the system of evasion of the special tax, by the use of distillers, except of distillers, refiners, and manufacturers of tobacco, snuff, and cigars, and dealers in liquor, be abolished, and that the minimum fine for failure or evasion of payment be fixed at \$500. With this change, relief by positive enactment should be given certain classes of persons against whom it has never been deemed necessary or just to enforce the penal provisions of the statute.

4. To add to the list of articles which persons are authorized to peddle without payment of special tax, fruits, vegetables, pies, cakes, and confectionery when sold by persons on foot, thus protecting many poor women and children, striving to earn a livelihood, and who, in numerous instances, have been subjected to anxiety and cost.

5. To tax liquor dealers, butchers, plumbers and gas-fitters uniformly as wholesale dealers are now taxed, when their annual sales exceed \$25,000, and to remove the limit in quantity for retail liquor dealers.

6. To increase the compensation of assistant assessors, and take away the present allowance of \$250.

7. To authorize the collectors to interchange the inspectors of the several distilleries within their districts at pleasure, so that several persons may from time to time, and at irregular intervals, have charge of each distillery, thus to some extent testing the faithfulness of each, while together they may prevent the consumption of frauds by the manufacturer.

8. To impose, as under the law of March 3, 1865, a uniform tax of ten dollars a thousand upon all domestic cigars.

9. To subject all manufacturers of turpentine to all the provisions of law in relation to bonds, warehouses, and drawbacks to which coal distillers are subject.

10. That as a collector is now employed in the Commissioner's office, the docket of internal revenue orders should be kept by the collector, and that the Commissioner should be charged with the custody of real estate upon distal under the internal revenue law.

11. That stamp duties on the conveyances be measured by the consideration, or the value of the property above the incumbrance; and upon a power of attorney for any purpose, be uniform \$50 cents.

12. That the penalty for neglect to stamp a writ of execution, be increased to \$500, and that the collector and the assessor be authorized to decree forfeiture of unstamped property and other articles improperly exposed for sale.

13. That authority be granted to the States largely in insurrection, to exercise the direct tax apportioned to them.

14. That one thousand dollars be exempted from the income tax, instead of six hundred as now provided.

Some minor modifications, it is intimated, will be submitted to the consideration of the proper committees, when the revenue bill comes up.

Report of the Commissioner of the Currency.

The whole number of banks organized in the National Currency act, is 1663. Of these 1663 are closed or are closing, leaving 1647 in actual operation. The aggregate capital paid in is \$417,245,104; bonds deposited, \$282,467,700; and currency issued, \$282,467,700.

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SPECIAL NOTICES.

NEW BOOKS.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL!

BAILEY & NOYES.

New Store on Exchange Street, MONDAY, 17th.

Our friends and patrons and the public generally we trust will visit and examine our NEW STOCK of Books, Fanciful Goods, Writing Books, Stationery, before purchasing elsewhere.

We shall have a good assortment of English and American Standard and Juvenile Books. We have a large stock of the general literature and favor which we have heretofore received.

BAILEY & NOYES, New Book, Exchange Street, dec20/96

Long Sought For!

Come at Last!

Mains' Elder Berry Wine.

We take pleasure in announcing that the above named article may be found at all City and Country Druggists and first class Grocers.

As a MEDICINE Mains' Wine is invaluable, being a tonic, blood purifier, and a general health-giver. It is a safe and reliable remedy for all the ailments of the system, and is especially adapted to the treatment of the following diseases: Rheumatism, Gout, Gravel, Dropsy, Neuralgia, Headache, Stomachic, Indigestion, Nervous Debility, Female Complaints, and all the ailments of the system.

Prepared by SEITH W. FOWLE & SONS, 11 Tremont Street, Boston, and sold by all Druggists and Dealers generally.

GRACE'S CELEBRATED SALVE! Cures in a very short time.

OLD SORES, BURNS, SCALDS, CUTS, WOUNDS, BRUISES, SPRAINS, CHAPPED HANDS, Itching, Chafing, etc., etc.

Is prompt in action, soothes the pain, takes out the sore, and restores the skin to its natural condition.

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SPECIAL NOTICES.

WISTAR'S BALM.

HALF A CENTURY.

With the most astonishing success in curing Coughs, Colds, Hoarseness, Sore Throat, Influenza, Whooping Cough, Asthma, and every other ailment of the Throat, Lungs and Chest.

THE THROAT, LUNGS AND CHEST.

CONSUMPTION.

The unqualified success that has attended the application of this balm in all cases of

Pulmonary Complaints, has induced many Physicians of high standing to employ it in their practice, some of whom advise us of the fact under their own signatures. We have continued to use it for the last half century, and have never known it fail in any case.

It is sold by all Druggists and Dealers generally.

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REMOVALS.

REMOVAL!

M. J. Cushman's Millinery Store

Has been removed from No. 10 to 11 1/2 Middle Street, between India and Hampshire streets. Just added a good variety of goods suitable for the season.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

Plumage call. dec20/96

Harris & Waterhouse, Hatters, Caps and Furs.

PORTLAND, DEC. 20, 1896. HARRIS & WATERHOUSE, Wholesale Dealers in Hats, Caps, and Furs, have removed to their New Store, No. 12 Exchange Street, F. HARRIS, dealer. J. C. WATERHOUSE, dec20/96

REMOVAL. JAMES O'DONNELL, COUNSELLOR AT LAW.

Office in Church's Church, 29 Congress St., next to Stone Church, aug20/96

OUT OF THE FIRE! B. F. SMITH & SONS, New Photograph Rooms.

No. 16 MARKET SQUARE, aug20/96

HOLDEN & PEABODY, Attorneys and Counsellors at Law.

Office, 239 1-2 Congress Street, Near the Court House, aug20/96

ANDERSON AND CO'S, HOOP SKIRT AND CORSET STORE.

Removed to 38 Congress St., opposite Mechanics Hall, dec20/96

G. G. DOWNES, MERCHANT TAILOR.

Has removed to No. 233 1-2 Congress Street, CORNER OF CHESTNUT, August 30, 1896. dt

N. J. GILMAN, For the present couplet part of the Store

NO. 6 FREE STREET BLOCK, with Messrs. J. M. Dyer & Co., and is prepared to assume his usual business, and offers a complete assortment of all the latest styles of Dressing, Silver Ware, Specimens, Cutlery, etc., on the most reasonable of the conditions of these terms, the proprietor is

REMOVAL! THE Merchants' National Bank

Will remove on MONDAY, Nov. 12, to the OFFICE OF H. M. PAYSON, 32 Exchange St. dt

O. M. & D. W. NASH, Real Estate and Insurance Agents.

Have removed from 101 to 102 Long Street, under the sign of the "Three Kings," and will be in charge of all business formerly conducted by O. M. & D. W. NASH, dec20/96

J. W. LIBBY, Insurance Agent.

Will be found at No. 117 Commercial, corner of Exchange St., Home Office of New York. National Office of Boston, 101 Exchange Street, opposite Putnam Office of Hartford; Standard Office of New York, and all other reliable offices, are represented by this agency. dt

RYON, GREENOUGH & CO., Furs, Hats, Caps and Robes, 161 Middle St., over T. H. Smith & Co. dt

WOODMAN, TRUE & CO., Wholesale Dry Goods, No. 141 Block, Commercial St. dt

NOTICE. J. W. LIBBY & CO., Manufacturers and Commission Merchants, Corning Room of the National Bank, No. 23 Free Street, corner of State and Commercial Sts. dt

J. W. LIBBY, Insurance Agent.

Will be found at No. 117 Commercial, corner of Exchange St., Home Office of New York. National Office of Boston, 101 Exchange Street, opposite Putnam Office of Hartford; Standard Office of New York, and all other reliable offices, are represented by this agency. dt

RYON, GREENOUGH & CO., Furs, Hats, Caps and Robes, 161 Middle St., over T. H. Smith & Co. dt

WOODMAN, TRUE & CO., Wholesale Dry Goods, No. 141 Block, Commercial St. dt

NOTICE. J. W. LIBBY & CO., Manufacturers and Commission Merchants, Corning Room of

HILLAS IS DESIRED.
 WILLIAM ROGERS, Inspector.
 Box 12110*
1. MEETING.
 The meeting of Chamberlain Bond Com-
 mittee at Office of Treasurer John
 Commercial Street, Tuesday Night,
 1, to act on the following busi-
 ness:
 To officers for the ensuing year,
 resigns that may legally come
 W. W. HAMMOND, Clerk.
 1906. dec 5 11w*
2. MILLER'S
RESERVATIVE!
 Without Bland, or credit for
 MILLER'S SHIRTS. *Best On Price!*
 by W. M. D. TRUE & CO.,
 25, 26 Congress street, opposite
 declinlin
or Safe.
 Hedges and Hicks, nearly new
 100 tons; also, Top
 second hand.
 HAMPSON & CO. NANT.
 19 25 Commercial Wharf.
Boating Boards.
 100 Spruce ELGIN, white
 16 foot long, 12 inches wide
 12 inches thick, 1000
 1000